



**THE EDUCATION
COLLABORATIVE**

The Entrepreneurship Ecosystem Project

Developing a model that thrives for Africa's HEIs





Outline

01	The Education Collaborative	02
02	Project Brief	04
03	Project Aim	05
04	Project Objectives	06
05	Models & Methodologies	07
06	Contact Us	11

The Education Collaborative

The Education Collaborative leads a growing network of Higher Learning Institutions in Africa to raise the bar collectively and sustainably for higher education outcomes.

Built on the values of collaboration, ethics, leadership, and community, The Education Collaborative prioritizes providing the mentorship, support, and funding that higher education institutions will need to build lasting systems as centres of excellence on the continent.

Through partnerships and other engagements, it creates an ecosystem for these institutions to mentor each other and lead regulatory and policy reform from the inside out. Together in the network, it works to achieve extraordinary education outcomes by focusing on five transformation goals.



Five Transformational Areas

1

Ethical and
Leadership
Development

2

Training students
with relevant
career readiness

3

Enabling an active
Entrepreneurship
Ecosystem

4

An active system
for accountability
and sustainability

5

Developing
inclusive and
diverse HEIs

Project Brief

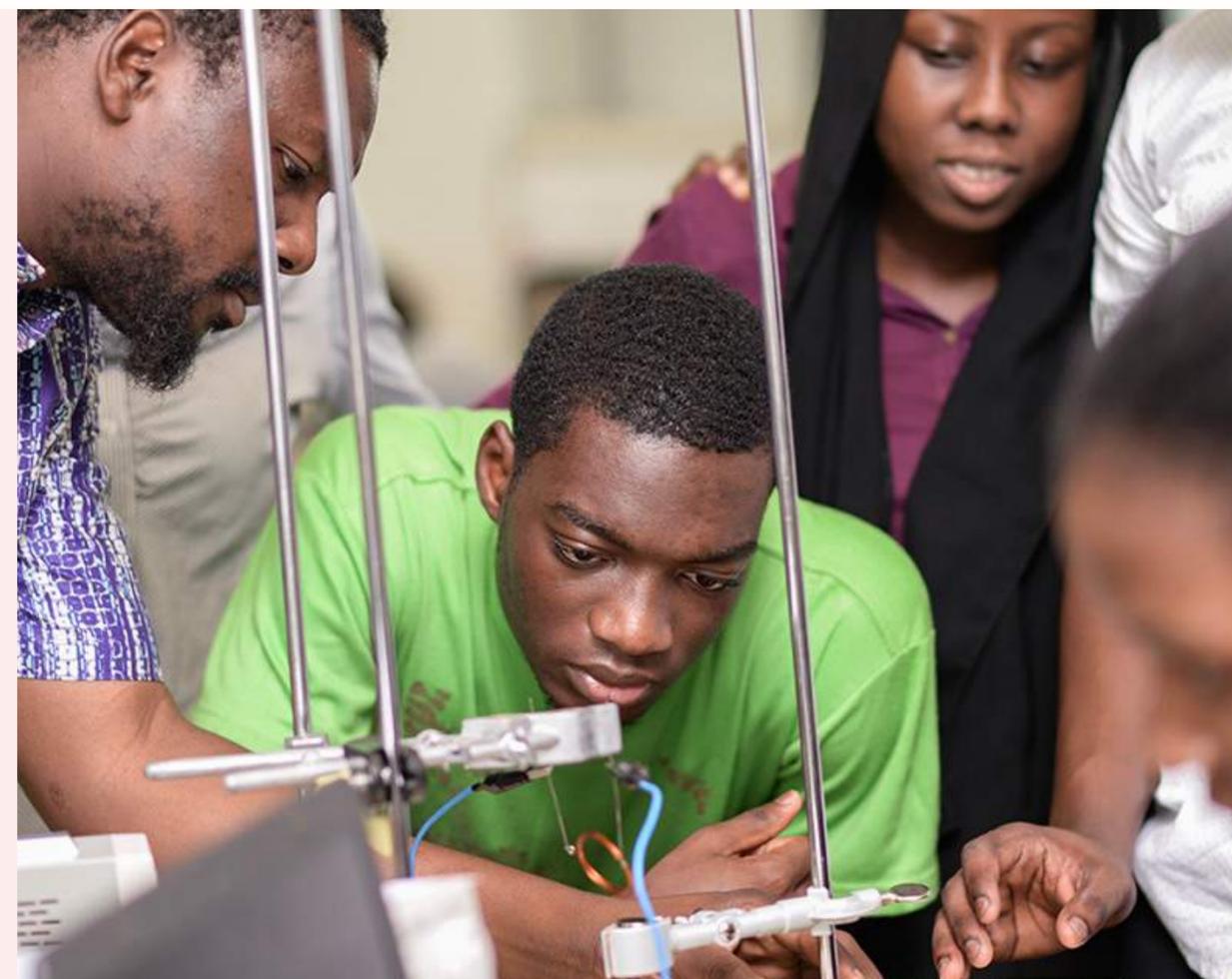
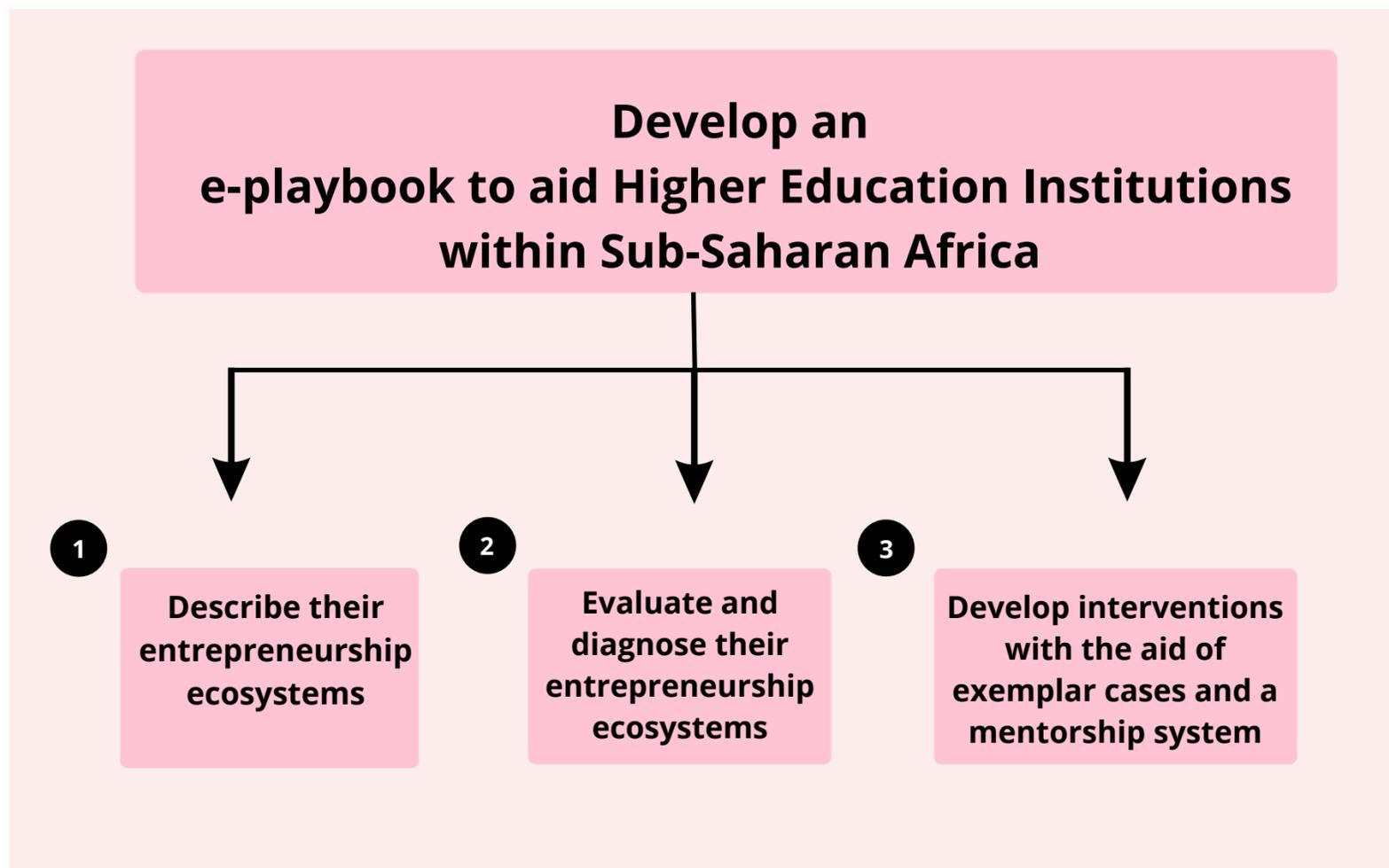
Given the rise in population, Africa needs to create a minimum of 12 million jobs annually to employ the 30 million youth who will enter the labour market by 2030, far more than the continent's current 3 million jobs created annually. Tertiary institutions are challenged to educate youth who get jobs and create jobs. Developing entrepreneurs and entrepreneurial students require considerable resources and varied stakeholders, students, institutions, regulators, industry, and funders.

Higher education institutions worldwide have taken different approaches to this, academically and non-academically. Achieving the best outcomes has challenged HEIs to maximize the efficiencies of entrepreneurship-focused resources and activities, from students' enrollment to graduating and beyond. A comprehensive and more systemic approach to creating and managing this interconnected system to develop entrepreneurs and entrepreneurial graduates is needed to achieve these efficiencies.

This project seeks to explore, share, and implement a method and best practices for entrepreneurship ecosystem development on HEI campuses in Africa using thriving ecosystems on the continent. It will engage HEIs as partners in the process of reviewing, developing, and tracking the ecosystems on their campuses. Partner HEIs will receive a small grant tied to specific outcomes to support the initial implementation of areas developed.

Partner HEIs will form and grow the Entrepreneurship Ecosystems Community of Practice. The outputs will contribute to a framework that will guide HEIs and key stakeholders on formal entrepreneurship education in Africa. The main output of the initiative will be an e-playbook on 'Building a student-centred entrepreneurship ecosystem from the ground up – models for Sub-Saharan African HEIs.'

Project Aim



Project Objectives

Phase 1: 2021 - 2022

Phase 2: 2023 - 2024

Phase 3: 2024

1

To define 'entrepreneurship ecosystems' as it is applied to HEIs, specifically, universities in SSA.

2

To design a logic model (LM) and theory of change (TOC) that informs a contextually relevant conceptual framework for the study of EEs within SSA HEIs

3

Develop a diagnostic tool and a casebook of exemplars to aid the EE of HEIs in SSA evaluate their EEs and learn from on continent success stories

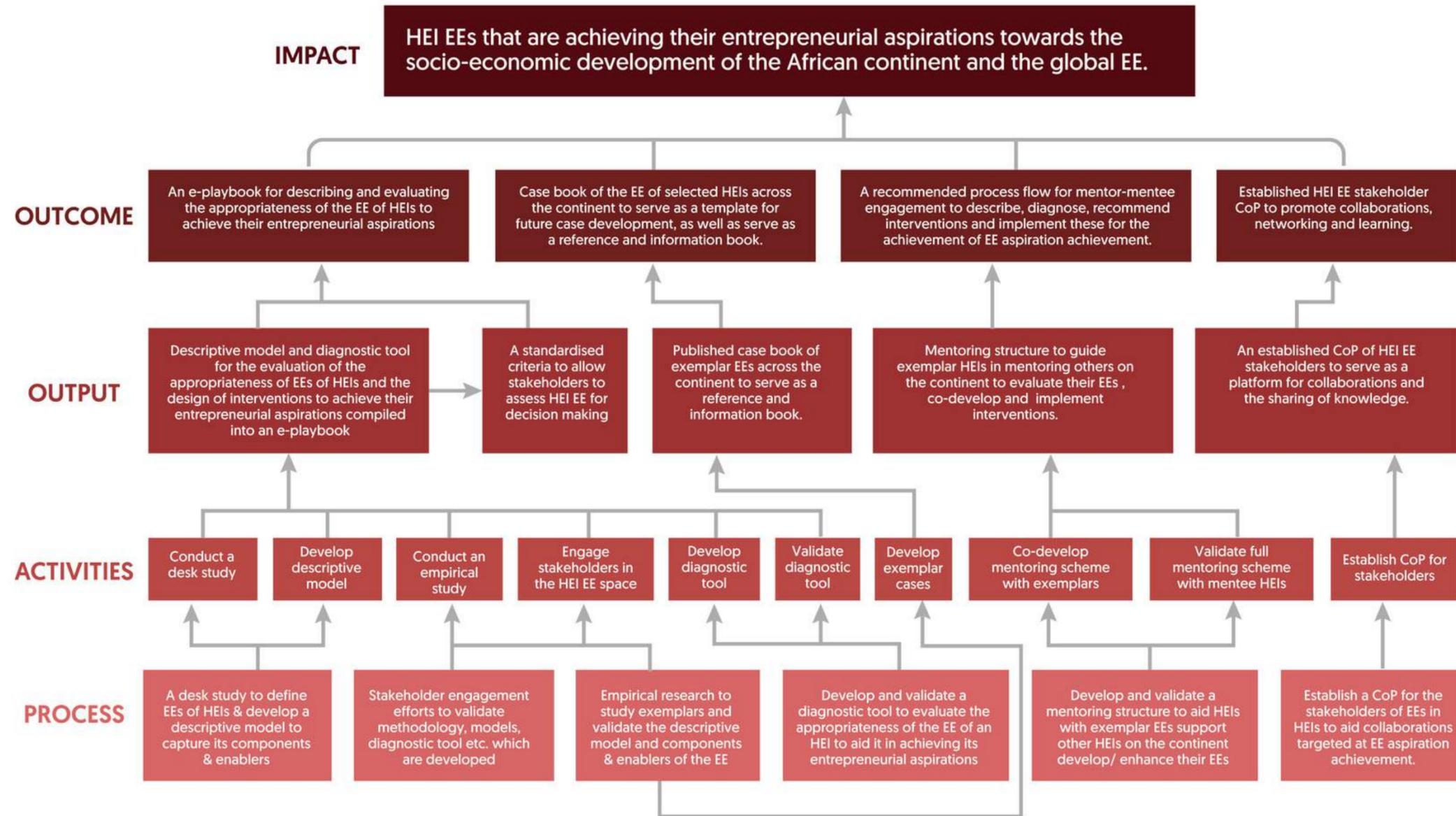
4

To develop a mentoring framework that enables HEIs within SSA to support each other and enhance their EEs through mentorship and a CoP

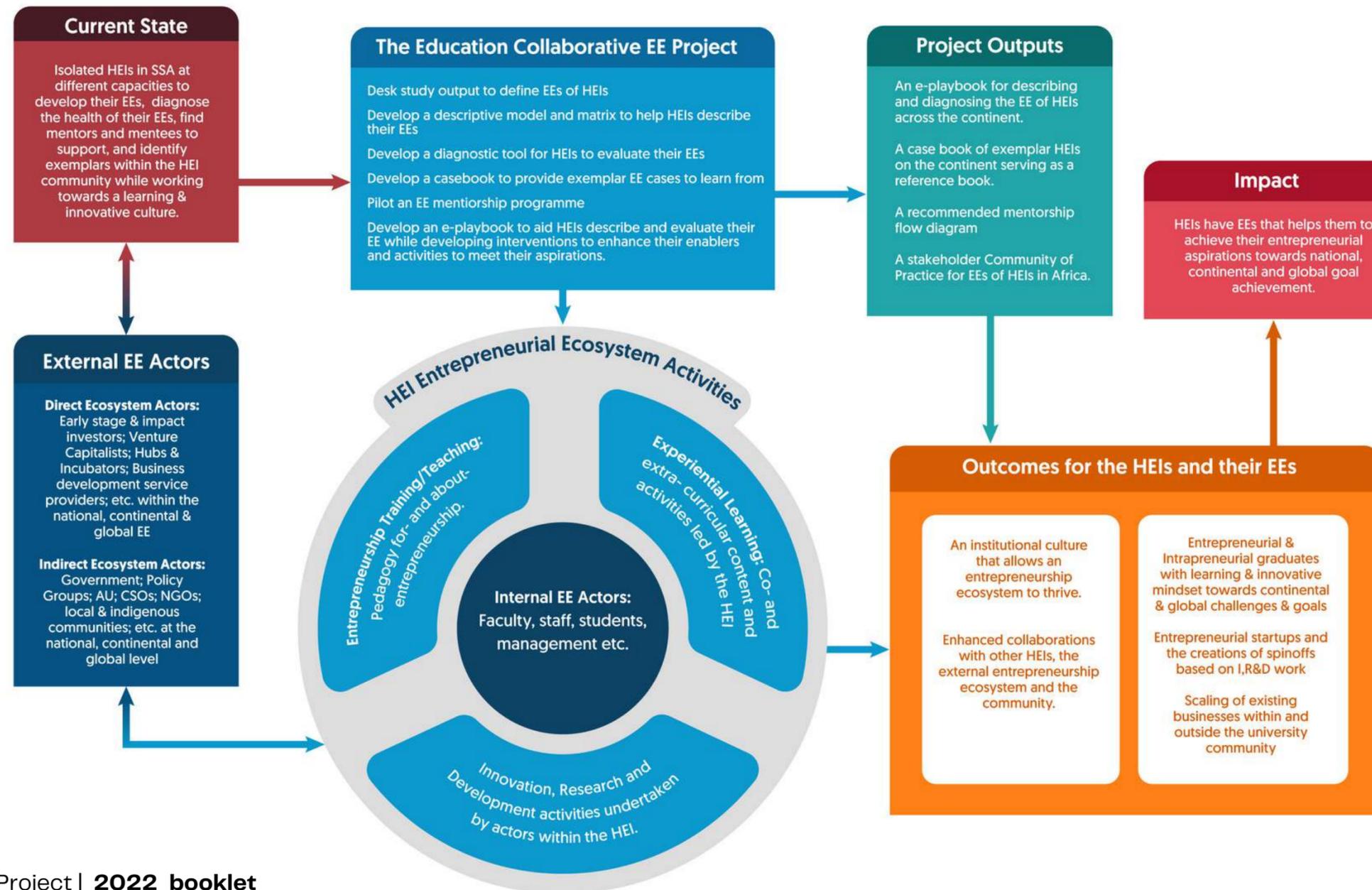
5

Develop an e-playbook to enable the EEs of HEIs in SSA to diagnose and develop interventions to aid the achievement of their entrepreneurial aspirations.

Project Logic Model



The Guiding Theory of Change

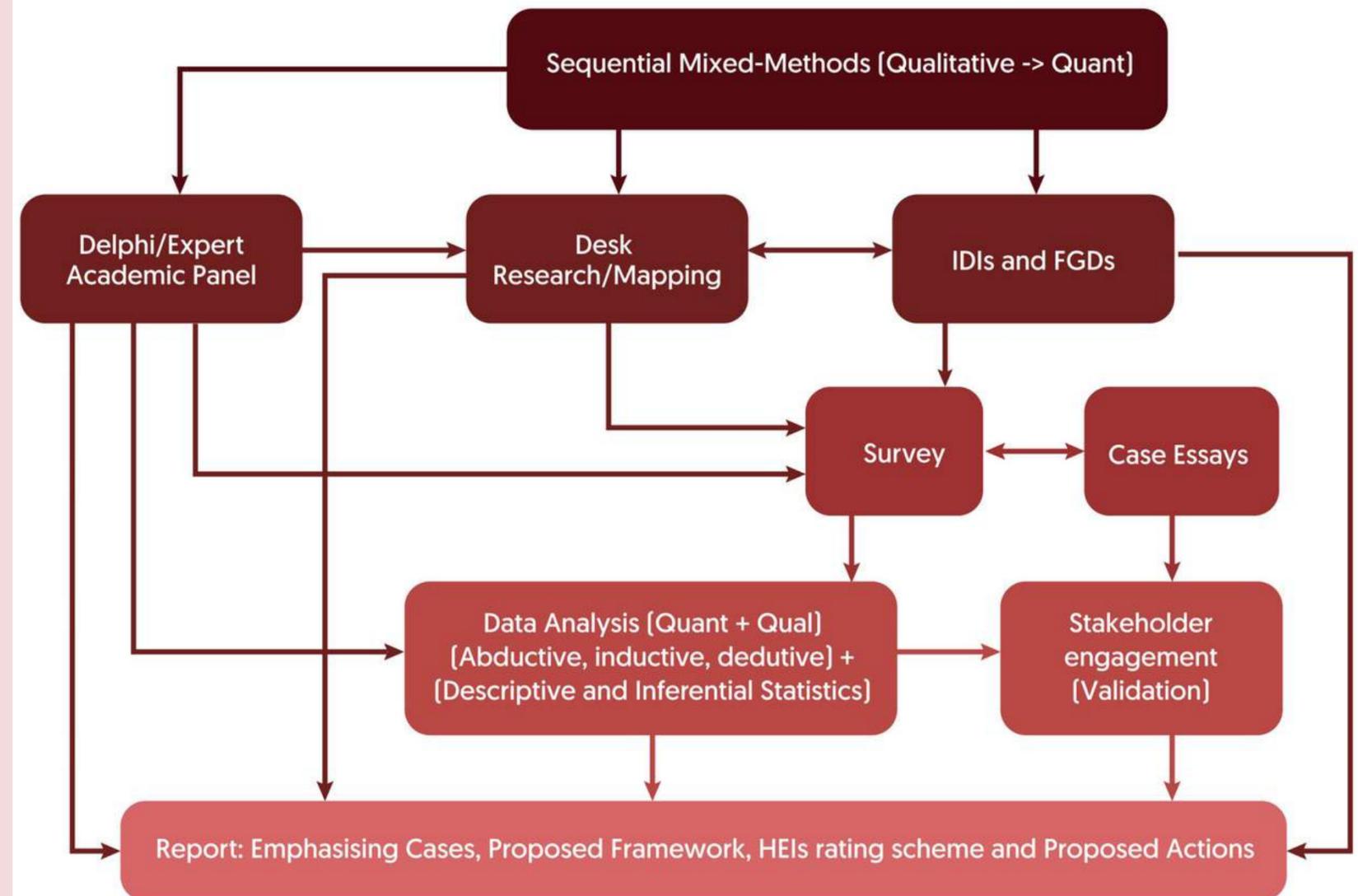


Methodology for the Project

The Project methodology adopts a sequential mixed-methods research (MMR) design, employing qualitative and quantitative exploratory and explanatory approaches. It ensures a holistic and balanced explanation of the ecosystems of HEIs on the continent. The MMR will occur at The MMR during data collection and the interpretation of the findings.

The data is being collected in three phases:

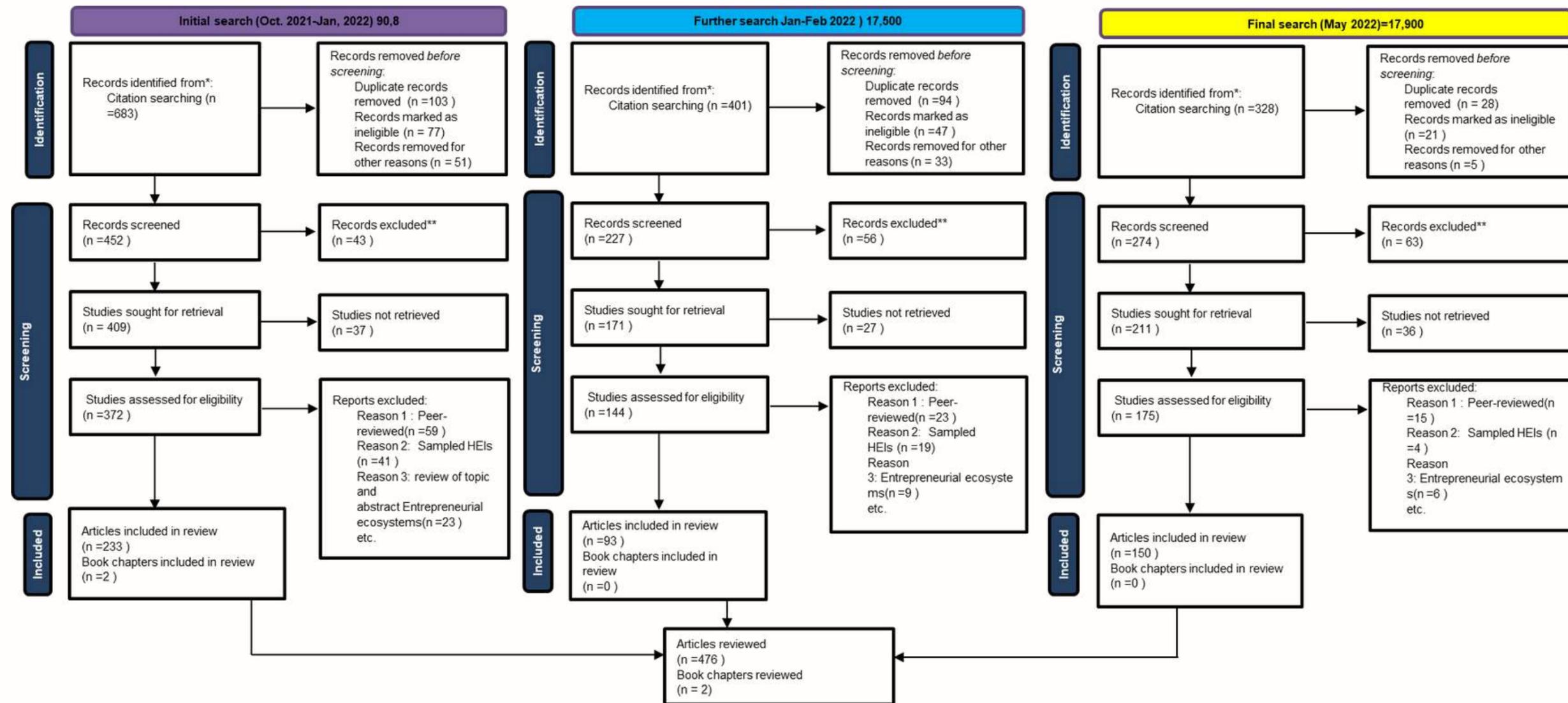
- Desk study research
- Engaging experts, including HEI EE actors, other actors within the larger EE country level and continent level landscapes, and academics.
- Primary cross-sectional data through key informant interviews, focused group discussions, and a survey.

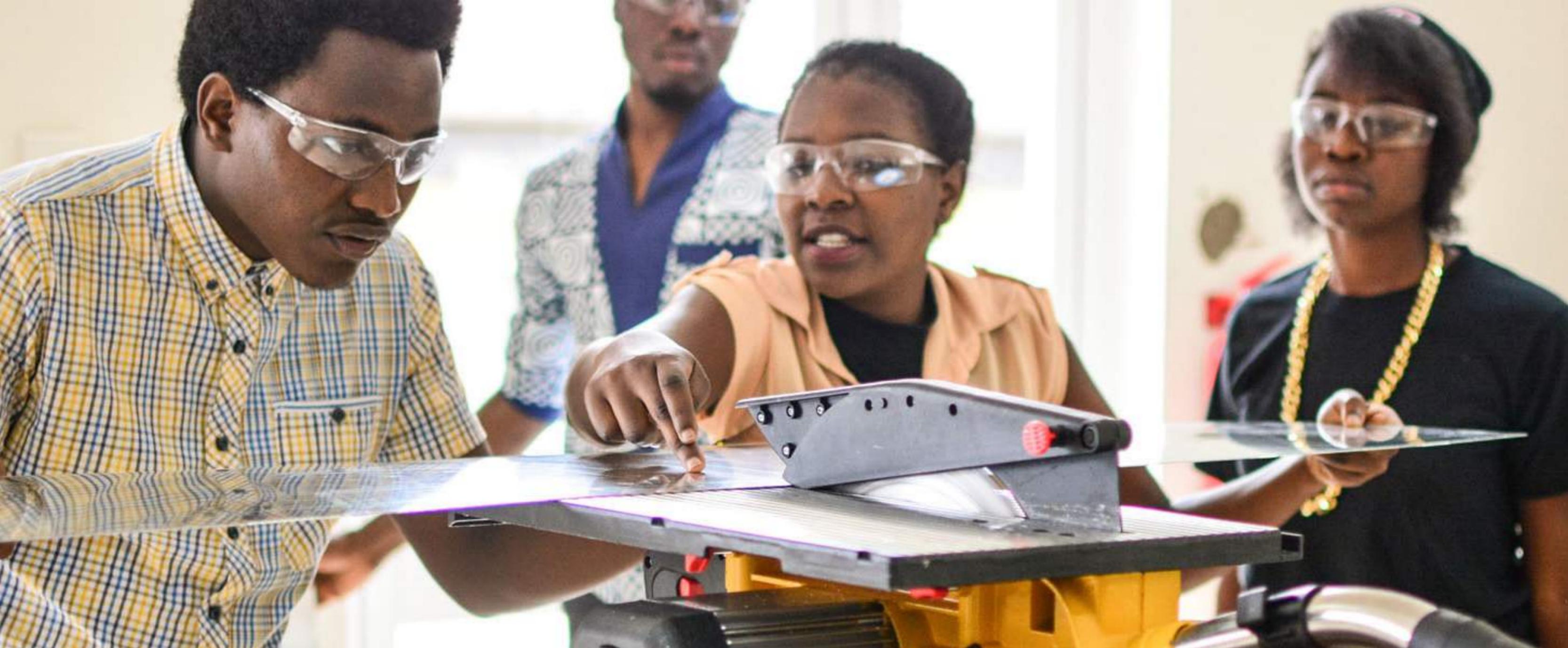


Methodology for the Desk Study

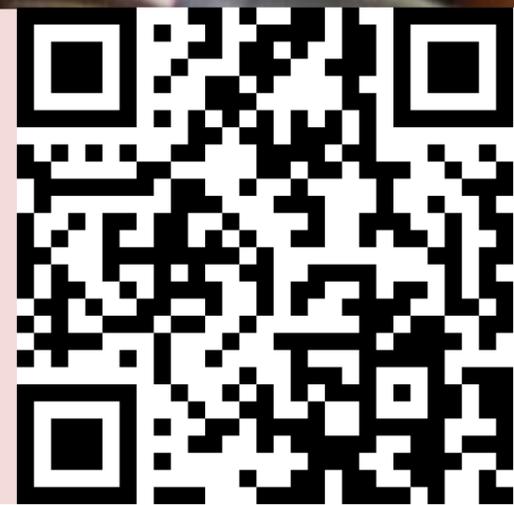
The team conducted an extensive literature review to define entrepreneurship ecosystems (EE), understand university-based EEs, and arrive at a sound theoretical underpinning for developing a model to describe HEI EEs. A total of 494 articles, reports and book chapters were reviewed.

This was done using a systematic literature review shown in the diagram. The initial desk study created the need to delve deeper into the university-based ecosystem, which the second review did. It was realised that there was no model specific to HEIs hence the need to develop the descriptive model shown. The final search allowed the team to fill gaps in the proposed model.





If your institution is interested in participating in our research survey, please complete the form via this link – <https://bit.ly/EntEcosystemProject> or scan the QR code to let us know.





Dr Sena Agbodjah
Project Lead



Dr William Murithi
Project Co-lead



Annstellah Gaki
Research Assitant



Elorm Dela-Brown
PM Assistant



**THE EDUCATION
COLLABORATIVE**

 <https://ashe.si/3IX2LTc>

 @Edu_Collaborate

 education.collaborative@ashesi.edu.gh